

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow. Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments be entered at least because they merely cancel rejected claims leaving only allowed claims, and thus do not raise any new issues requiring further search or consideration.

Claims 56-58 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added. Claims 2-37, 40, 42-48, 52 and 54-55 are pending.

Allowable subject matter

Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 2-37, 40, 42-48, 52 and 54-55 are allowed.

Claim objections

Claims 56 and 57 were objected to only for informalities. These objections are moot in light of the cancellation of claims 56 and 57.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 103

Claims 56-57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,222,044 to Tsujimoto (“Tsujimoto”). Claim 58 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsujimoto. These rejections are moot in light of the cancellation of claims 56-58.

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to

charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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